



US. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Buffalo Office
465 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14203-1780
Ph 716/551-5755 ext 5800 - Fax 716/551-5634

OCT 28 2003

Mr. Joel A. Giambra
County Executive, County of Erie
Edward A. Rath County Office Building
95 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202-3973

Dear Mr. Giambra:

SUBJECT: Annual Community Assessment/Program Year 2002 Review Letter; County of Erie, New York

The Buffalo Office is required to make a determination according to Title 1 of the National Affordable Housing Act and the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 about whether our grant recipient is in compliance with statutes and has a continuing capacity to administer the programs for which assistance is received.

We have completed an Annual Community Assessment of your overall performance under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships, and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) programs consistent with the requirements of 24 CFR 91.525. Our assessment included a review of the County's Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) for your 2002 program year, as well as, other information contained in HUD's Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS). This assessment revealed that your overall performance is satisfactory in the areas of progress and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In summary, we note that Erie County and your development partners accomplished the following priority projects with these resources:

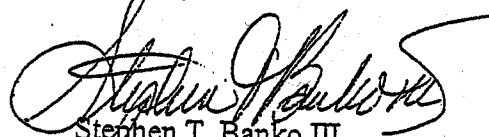
- 175 households were assisted through CDBG and HOME housing rehabilitation and first time homebuyer programs.
- 524 households received housing counseling services.
- Initiated the HUD \$1.00 Home program and purchased two homes from HUD for resale to low- and moderate-income households.
- Provided a benefit to 428 individuals/recipients through the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program.
- Completed 27 community projects
- Initiated and/or completed several Economic Development Infrastructure, Brownfield Site Remediation and Economic Development Loan projects.

We congratulate the Department of Environment & Planning on these accomplishments and the achievement of both local and Departmental housing and community development goals.

Consistent with the Consolidated Plan regulations, this assessment should be made available to the public within 30 days of receipt. You can assist us in this regard by sharing it via your established citizen participation process. HUD will also make this information available to the public upon request.

If this Office can be of assistance to you, or if there are any questions about this letter, please contact Robert G. Guadagno, Community Planning and Development Representative, on 716-551-5755, extension 5819.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephen T. Banko III", written in a cursive style.

Stephen T. Banko III
Field Office Director, 2CS

CC: Andrew M. Eszak /